

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING  
X-RAY BEAMS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for generating x-ray beams are described. In one embodiment, the method includes operating a cathode to generate an electron beam, directing the electron beam from the cathode through a selectable shaped aperture in an accelerating electrode, and impinging the electron beam at a low angle on an anode surface to form a focal spot on the anode surface